

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 THESSA 00124 121621Z

61
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

EB-11 DRC-01 OMB-01 /094 W
----- 071027

R 121430Z MAR 74
FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1841
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0124

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PINS, GR
SUBJECT: LOCAL BLACKMAIL CASE PROVOKES CRITICISM OF
PAPADOPOULOS REGIME

REF: ATHENS A-26, 01/24/70

1. IN STRONGLY WORDED EDITORIAL ENTITLED "SHAME"
IN "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF MARCH 12, CHIEF ED KYROU
USES LOCAL BLACKMAIL CASE OF GEORGE KARAKOSTAS TO
ATTACK ECONOMIC MISMANAGEMENT OF PAPADOPOULOS ERA.
(NOTE: KARAKOSTAS, WHO ARRESTED HERE IN FLAGRANTE
DELICTO MARCH 7 FOR BLACKMAIL AND EXTORTION, WAS
CENTRAL FIGURE IN ABORTIVE 1969 DEAL FOR DOLLARS 110 MILLION
ITALIAN TRACTOR PLANT, WHICH SPONSORED BY MAKAREZOS
(REF).

2. KYROU COMMENTS THAT MAKAREZOS AND THEN-ALTERNATE
MIN OF COORDINATION FTHENAKIS FAILED TO INVESTIGATE
KARAKOSTAS BEFORE SIGNATURE OF DOLLARS 110 MILLION AGREEMENT.
HE ADDS THAT "SIMILAR FIASCOS" OCCURRED THROUGHOUT
GREECE UNDER PAPADOPOULOS, SINCE 110 OF APPROX 200
MINISTERS OVER SIX-YEAR PERIOD WERE "IRRELEVANT
TO WORK ASSIGNED THEM".
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Draft Date: 12 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005